

REMARKS

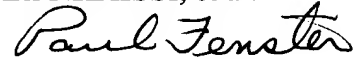
The present amendment cancels claims 1-34 and adds claims 88-179 which correspond to the claims attached to a newly-received IPER, established by the IPEA/US, mailed on June 26, 2001. The claims have been renumbered and multiple dependencies canceled.

Applicants note that the claims of the International Application were indicated as meeting the criteria of PCT Article 33(2)-33(4) in the IPER.

An action on the merits is respectfully awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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